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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/658,333	09/10/2003	Noriyuki Sasaki	122.1567	1877
21171	7590	09/28/2006	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005				FATAHIYAR, MAHMOUD
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2629		

DATE MAILED: 09/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/658,333	SASAKI, NORIYUKI
	Examiner Mike Fatahiyar	Art Unit 2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 July 2006.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 1,5, 7, 10, 14 and 18 are, the recited recitation “during automatic operation” is vague and indefinite because it is not clear to what it refers. In other words, is unclear during automatic operation of what element the electric power condition is stored in a storage section. What constitute this automatic operation is unclear. Correction and/or clarification is required.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-7, 10-14 and 18 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto(20030061526A1) in view of Yoshida(5,894,580).

Hashimoto discloses a method and an apparatus for power reduction management of an information processing device comprising a task management application program for relating times to power saving settings(see abstract and

paragraphs[0008]-[0014]) comprising an input/output control section(44) and a management table(152-154; see figure 1) which are function as claimed. Hashimoto substantially show all the features of the above claims except for the "during automatic operation" performing the power saving function. However, Yoshida is cited to show that the concept of utilizing an automatic turn-off timer for a display device for power saving purposes is old(see abstract; column 2, lines 48-55; column 5, lines 21-67; column 6 through column 7, lines 1-10 and column 8, lines 23-67). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Hashimoto with the noted teaching of Yoshida such that to automatically turn off the backlight of an LCD display device regardless of any input or output signals being transferred because both systems are related to power saving for a display device.

4. Claims 8-9 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto and Yoshida as applied to claims 7 and 14 above, and further in view of Yasunobu(JP abstract 11126118A).

Hashimoto and Yoshida are discussed above. Yasunobu is cited to show that the concept of limiting brightness of the backlight of an LCD device by reducing output electric power of an inverter of the backlight for power saving purpose is old(see the abstract). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to apply the noted teachings of Yasunobu to the modified system of Hashimoto such that the power saving task management of Hashimoto would perform power saving of an LCD display device with a backlight by reducing output electric power of an inverter of the backlight

because all the applied references are related to power saving management of input/output devices.

5. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto and Yoshida as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of Fujii et al(6,442,443B1).

Hashimoto and Yoshida are discussed above. Fujii et al is cited show that the concept of reducing output power of an speaker device during a predetermined time is old(see figure 2 and the abstract). Therefor, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to apply the noted teachings of Fujii et al to the modified system of Hashimoto such that to perform a power reduction of an speaker device as an output device because all the applied references are related to power management of input/output devices of a computer system.

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Tsuji et , Chen et al and Nishikawa are made of record to show various types of display devices having some sort of automatic power-off timer for power saving purposes.

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Fatahiyar whose telephone number is (571)272-7688. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe, can be reached on 571-272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

M. Fatahiyar

MF

September 25, 2006



RICHARD HJERPE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TELE: [REDACTED] CENTER 2600